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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Spain

DATE: 25X1X6

SUBJECT 1. Enrollment of Communists on the Spanish
Republican Army Register

INFO.

DIST. 14 January 1947

25X1A6a 2. Arrival in France of Two Leaders of the AFARE

PAGES

ORIGIN 25X1X6

SUPPLEMENT

Enrollment of Communists on the Spanish Republican Army Register

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1. General Mariano Gamir Ulibarri, head of the Spanish republican military committee known as the Work Commission of the Europe-North Africa zone, reportedly stated in late November 1946 that the Communist military men have begun to send in their cards to the commission. Gamir is of the opinion that a new directive has been issued by the Spanish Communist Party on this matter, since until recently the Communists have refrained from enrolling on the commission's register of Spanish republican military men. The Work Commission is under the jurisdiction of the Spanish Republican Government-in-Exile and its headquarters are located at 50 rue Roquelaine, Toulouse.
2. Among the Communists who have registered with the commission are General Jose Riquelme and Colonel of Artillery Fernando Claudin. The latter by virtue of seniority has been named military delegate for the Basses Pyrenees zone, replacing Colonel Arredondo.

Arrival in France of Two Leaders of the AFARE

3. According to a source close to Santiago Carrillo, Communist Minister in the Giral Government, the latter received a communication to the effect that two members of the Junta Suprema of the AFARE (Agrupacion de Fuerzas Armadas de la Republica Espanola) had reached Hendaye in early December, having come from Barcelona. One of them is Eugenio Serra. These two men were the only members of the organization's central committee who escaped arrest when many of the group were taken into custody some time ago. (See SO-1596 for information on the roundup of AFARE leaders, which took place in October). Reportedly, the message stated that Serra and his companion had not contacted the Communist Party, since they did not wish to call attention to their political affiliation, but as military men had contacted Colonel Arredondo. The latter had informed General Juan Hernandez Sarabia, Minister of Defense in the Spanish exile government, of their arrival.
4. A source in Hendaye stated that these two Communists were the chiefs of propaganda and organization of the AFARE. He added that one of them had formed part of a committee which came to France during the summer to offer the honorary presidency of the AFARE to Hernandez Sarabia. The latter declined to accept the post.

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CLASSIFICATION SECRET

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